IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

SAITO, T. et al.

Atty. Ref.: 1417-375

Serial No. unknown

Group:

Filed: December 20, 2001

Examiner:

For: METHACRYLATE-BASED POLYMER AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE

SAME

December 20, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In order to place the above-identified application in better condition for examination, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute the following amended claims for corresponding claims previously presented. A copy of the amended claims showing current revisions is attached.

3. A process according to claim 1, wherein the low-valence metal $(M)^n$ is at least one metal selected from the group consisting of Cu^{1+} , Ru^{2+} , Fe^{2+} and Ni^{2+} .

REMARKS

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page(s) is captioned "Version With Markings To Show Changes Made."

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

3. A process according to claim 1-or-claim 2, wherein the low-valence metal (M)ⁿ is at least one metal selected from the group consisting of Cu¹⁺, Ru²⁺, Fe²⁺ and Ni²⁺.